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LETTER DATED 20 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to present to you this letter dated 20 July 1992 from the President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 20 July 1992 from the President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the Secretary-General

According to the Agreement reached in London on 17 July this year under the patronage of Lord Carrington, Chairman of the European Community (EC) Conference on Yugoslavia, a cease-fire in Bosnia and Herzegovina was due to come into force yesterday, 19 July, at 6 p.m. This was confirmed also in our meeting yesterday with the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Mr. Milan Panić. We also agreed that we would take the first steps towards establishing peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina that the heavy artillery around Gorazde would today be withdrawn to Serbia and Montenegro, and that the artillery around Sarajevo would be placed under the control of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the places where part of that weaponry has already been concentrated, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 758 (1992).

The Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina accepted this plan and have observed the cease-fire.

However, in spite of the London Agreement and the promises of Mr. Panić, the attacks of the aggressor have continued in almost all areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in some places have intensified.

All last night Sarajevo was under fierce artillery bombardment. At about 10 a.m. this morning the Presidency building was hit. Five citizens have been killed, and more than 30 injured. UNPROFOR has been forced to temporarily suspend the arrival of humanitarian aid because of shooting in the immediate vicinity of the airport. There are reliable indications that the aggressor is preparing a general assault on the city.

Attacks with heavy weapons continue against Bosanski Brod, Derventa, Srebrenica and Bihać. The situation in Gorazde is still very grave. New columns of tanks are crossing the Serbian frontier into Bosnia and Herzegovina on the Priboj-Rudo road towards that besieged city. We do not yet possess data for all places, but we have just received news that in Bihać alone in the past 12 hours 11 civilians have been killed and 29 injured. An infantry breakthrough has been attempted into recently liberated Mostar.

All this indicates that all proclamations and promises on the part of the aggressors that they are ready for peace are merely attempts to deceive international opinion.

Unless the international community, and above all the United Nations Security Council, take more decisive measures to stop this aggression, it will dangerously escalate. These may be the last moments for stopping the conflict.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC